

Sinclair Broadcasting's airing of the anti-Kerry documentary "Stolen Honor" shortly before the election is an irresponsible abuse of public airwaves. They are forcing local stations to air this during pre-empted prime-time programming. Airing the anti-Bush documentary "Fahrenheit 911" would be just as bad. Neither is "news."

Sinclair's intended action demonstrates how a huge media conglomerate can abuse their power. This is not appropriate in a democracy.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get what's good for their bottom line, or we get highly skewed information touted as "news." And we get less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. The license renewal process needs to include an unbiased review of whether the company is serving the public. Through prior and current actions, Sinclair has clearly demonstrated that they are not serving the public interest.

Thank you.